# AMENDMENTS

## In the Claims

Claims 15-31 and 45-58 were previously canceled.

Please amend claims 1, 9-14, and 32 as shown herein.

Claims 1-14 and 32-44 are pending and are listed following:

1. **(currently amended)** A data communication system configured to communicatively link a host device and a remote client device with a point-to-point data communication link, the host device and the remote client device each configured for multipoint data communication over a distributed network, the data communication system comprising:

a remote data communication interface driver of the host device implemented in the remote client device, the remote data communication interface driver configured to communicatively link with a data communication interface of the host device via the point-to-point data communication link;

a virtual driver component configured to communicate with the remote data communication interface driver and the remote client device; and

a virtual network configured to communicatively link the remote data communication interface driver and the virtual driver component in the remote client device.

2. **(previously presented)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1, wherein the remote data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication interface is a Remote NDIS component configured to communicate with the Remote NDIS driver via the point-to-point data communication link.

3. **(previously presented)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1, wherein the remote data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication interface is a Remote NDIS component configured to communicate Remote NDIS messages with the Remote NDIS driver via the point-to-point data communication link.

4. **(original)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1, wherein the virtual network is a local area network.

5. **(previously presented)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1, wherein the remote data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver configured to communicate with the virtual driver component via the virtual network.

6. **(previously presented)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1, wherein the remote data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver configured to communicate Remote NDIS messages with the virtual driver component via the virtual network.

7. **(previously presented)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1, wherein the remote data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication interface is a Remote NDIS component configured to communicate with the Remote NDIS driver via the point-to-point data communication link, and the Remote NDIS driver is configured to communicate with the virtual driver component via the virtual network.

8. **(previously presented)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1, wherein the remote data communication interface driver is a Remote Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication interface is a Remote NDIS component configured to communicate Remote NDIS messages with the Remote NDIS driver via the point-to-point data communication link, and the Remote NDIS driver is configured to communicate the Remote NDIS messages with the virtual driver component via the virtual network.

9. **(currently amended)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a connection interface configured to couple the point-to-point data communication link with the remote client device.

**10. (currently amended)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a Universal Serial Bus data communication interface configured to couple the point-to-point data communication link with the remote client device.

**11. (currently amended)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a 1394 bus data communication interface configured to couple the point-to-point data communication link with the remote client device.

**12. (currently amended)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a wireless data communication interface configured to couple the point-to-point data communication link with the remote client device.

**13. (currently amended)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1, further comprising a Bluetooth data communication interface configured to couple the point-to-point data communication link with the remote client device.

**14. (currently amended)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1, further comprising an infrared data communication interface configured to couple the point-to-point data communication link with the remote client device.

**15-31. (canceled)**

**32. (currently amended)** A method for implementing a point-to-point data communication link between computing devices, the method comprising:

implementing a remote network communication component of a host computing device in a remote client computing device, the remote network communication component designed for data communication over a distributed network;

implementing a connection interface to couple the remote network communication component with the host computing device; and

implementing a virtual network to communicatively link the remote network communication component and a virtual driver component of the remote client computing device.

**33. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein implementing the remote network communication component includes implementing a data communication interface driver to communicatively link with a data communication interface of the host computing device via the point-to-point data communication link.

**34. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein implementing the remote network communication component includes implementing a Remote Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver to communicatively link with a Remote NDIS component of the host computing device via the point-to-point data communication link.

**35. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein implementing the remote network communication component includes implementing a Remote Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver to communicate Remote NDIS messages with a Remote NDIS component of the host computing device via the point-to-point data communication link.

**36. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein implementing the connection interface includes providing a point-to-point data communication protocol interface.

**37. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein implementing the connection interface includes providing a Universal Serial Bus data communication interface.

**38. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein implementing the connection interface includes providing a 1394 bus data communication interface.

**39. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein implementing the connection interface includes providing a wireless data communication interface.

**40. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein implementing the connection interface includes providing a Bluetooth data communication interface.

**41. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein implementing the connection interface includes providing an infrared data communication interface.

**42. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein implementing the virtual network includes providing a virtual local area network.

**43. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein implementing the remote network communication component includes implementing a Remote Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver, and wherein implementing the virtual network includes providing a virtual local area network to communicate Remote NDIS messages between the Remote NDIS driver and the virtual driver component.

**44. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein implementing the remote network communication component includes implementing a Remote Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver to communicate Remote NDIS messages with a Remote NDIS component of the host computing device via the point-to-point data communication link, and wherein implementing the virtual network includes implementing a virtual local area network to communicate the Remote NDIS messages between the Remote NDIS driver and the virtual driver component.

**45-58. (canceled)**